

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8723

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 7241

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TH, ID, ASEAN

SUBJ: MALIK ON KHUKRIT'S VISIT TO INDONESIA

REF: JAKARTA 7223

1. DURING AMBASSADOR'S CALL JUNE 16, FONMIN MALIK MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ABOUT DISCUSSIONS WITH THAI PM KHUKRIT DURING VISIT TO INDONESIA JUNE 11-14.

2. MALIK SAID SUHARTO AND OTHER GOI LEADERS HAVE DOUBTS ABOUT WHETHER KHUKRIT'S GOVERNMENT STRONG ENOUGH TO COPE WITH SECURITY PROBLEMS, AND TRIED HARD TO IMPRESS UPON HIM NEED TO OBTAIN GREATER COOPERATION AND SUPPORT
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FROM THAI ARMY.

3. ACCORDING MALIK, INDONESIANS TOLD KHUKRIT THAT ALTHOUGH ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS WERE BASIC SOURCE OF SECURITY THREAT, THERE MAY NOT BE SUFFICIENT TIME TO SOLVE PROBLEM THROUGH ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRAMS ALONE; SUCH PROGRAMS AND UNIFYING FORCE OF THAI MONARCHY WILL NOT ALONE GUARANTEE SECURITY; CLOSE CIVILIAN-MILITARY COOPERATION THEREFORE ESSENTIAL.

4. MALIK SAID HE AND OTHER GOI LEADERS ALSO ENCOURAGED KHUKRIT TO SPEED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TO COPE WITH SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. GOI MINISTER OF INTERIOR LT.GEN. AMIR MACHMUD BRIEFED KHUKRIT ON INDONESIAN PROGRAMS FOR MOBILIZING AND EDUCATING VILLAGERS AND VILLAGE-LEVEL WARNING SYSTEM. KHUKRIT SAID THAILAND IS DEVELOPING SIMILAR PROGRAMS.

5. MALIK SAID KHUKRIT MISTRUSTS ARMY AND SKEPTICAL ABOUT COOPERATION WITH IT, BUT THAT TALKS WITH INDONESIANS MAY HAVE INCREASED HIS UNDERSTANDING OF NEED FOR MILITARY SUPPORT. MALIK OBSERVED THAI SITUATION SIMILAR TO INDONESIA'S. "I'M NOT SO HAPPY WITH THE MILITARY EITHER, BUT WE NEED THEM, AND THAILAND DOES TOO" HE ADDED.

6. TURNING TO ASEAN SUMMIT, MALIK SAID KHUKRIT'S NEGATIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD SUMMIT REFLECTED IN REMARKS TO PRESS JUNE 13 (REFTEL PARA 4) BASED ON SUSPICION THAT IT WAS IDEA OF MARCOS WHOM, ACCORDING MALIK, KHUKRIT MISTRUSTS. AFTER INDONESIANS MADE IT CLEAR THAT IT WAS SUHARTO, NOT MARCOS, WHO PROPOSED SUMMIT MEETING, KHUKRIT AGREED THAT IT SHOULD BE HELD IN JAKARTA, PERHAPS IN AUGUST. (NOTE: FONMIN CHATICHAI, JUST BEFORE KHUKRIT'S DEPARTURE JUNE 14, SAID THAILAND SUPPORTS SUMMIT THIS YEAR; JAKARTA PRESS ALSO REPORTS THAT KHUKRIT SAID HE SUPPORTED AUGUST SUMMIT IN JAKARTA ON HIS RETURN TO BANGKOK.)

7. ONLY REMAINING HURDLE TO SUMMIT, MALIK SAID, IS LEE KUAN YEW, PERHAPS BECAUSE HE THINKS IT UNWISE FOR ASEAN TO DISPLAY UNDUE NERVOUSNESS OVER INDOCHINA SITUATION. HOWEVER, RAJARATNAM HAS AGREED TO SUMMIT; AND ALL ASEAN
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FONMINS HAVE AGREED TO PRE-SUMMIT PREPARATORY MEETING OF FONMINS, ALL OF WHICH, IN MALIK'S VIEW, SUGGEST THAT LEE WILL PROBABLY GO ALONG.
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